

**HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015
DEMOLITION AND RELOCATION PERMITS
HDP-2015-0780
110 ACADEMY DRIVE**

PROPOSAL

Demolish a ca. 1921 house.

ARCHITECTURE

One-story, rectangular-plan, front-gabled brick bungalow with a partial-width, front-gabled independent porch on square, brick posts; single and paired 1:1 fenestration with ornamental wooden screens; standing seam metal roof; false half-timbering in the stuccoed tympanum of the porch gable; stuccoed tympanum of the principal roof gable with an arched rectangular wooden louvered attic vent.

RESEARCH

The house was built around 1921, on what was then listed in city directories as The Circle. The first occupant of the house was a renter, Mrs. Mattie Pleasant, an Alabama-born widow who lived here with her daughter, Emogene, a student at the University of Texas. Mrs. Pleasant had previously lived in Mabank, Texas, and after renting this house for a year or two, moved to West Campus, where she ran a boarding house. Around 1925, the house was purchased by William Y. and Callie Knight, who lived here until the mid-1930s. William Knight was a sewing machine salesman. The 1930 U.S. Census shows that the Knights had 3 families of boarders living in this house. Knight later moved to a rented house on Milton Street in South Austin. Interestingly, the 1927 city directory notes that the Ku Klux Klan Hall was located at 201 The Circle, which would have been directly across the street from this house.

Paul and Mary Beck bought this house around 1938, and lived here until the mid-1950s. Paul Beck was a native of Bastrop County, and worked as a salesman for the Austin Baking Company for his entire career.

In the mid-1950s, the house became a rental property, and soon thereafter, it was closely associated with the adjacent Terrace Motor Hotel, which started as a tourist court in the early 1950s at 1215 S. Congress Avenue, and built the "largest motor hotel in Texas" in a picturesque style at the northeast corner of Academy Drive and South Congress Avenue. The Terrace later became the Terrace Apartments. Many of the tenants of this house were employed by the Terrace Motor Hotel, and a pair of later tenants were managers of the Terrace Apartments.

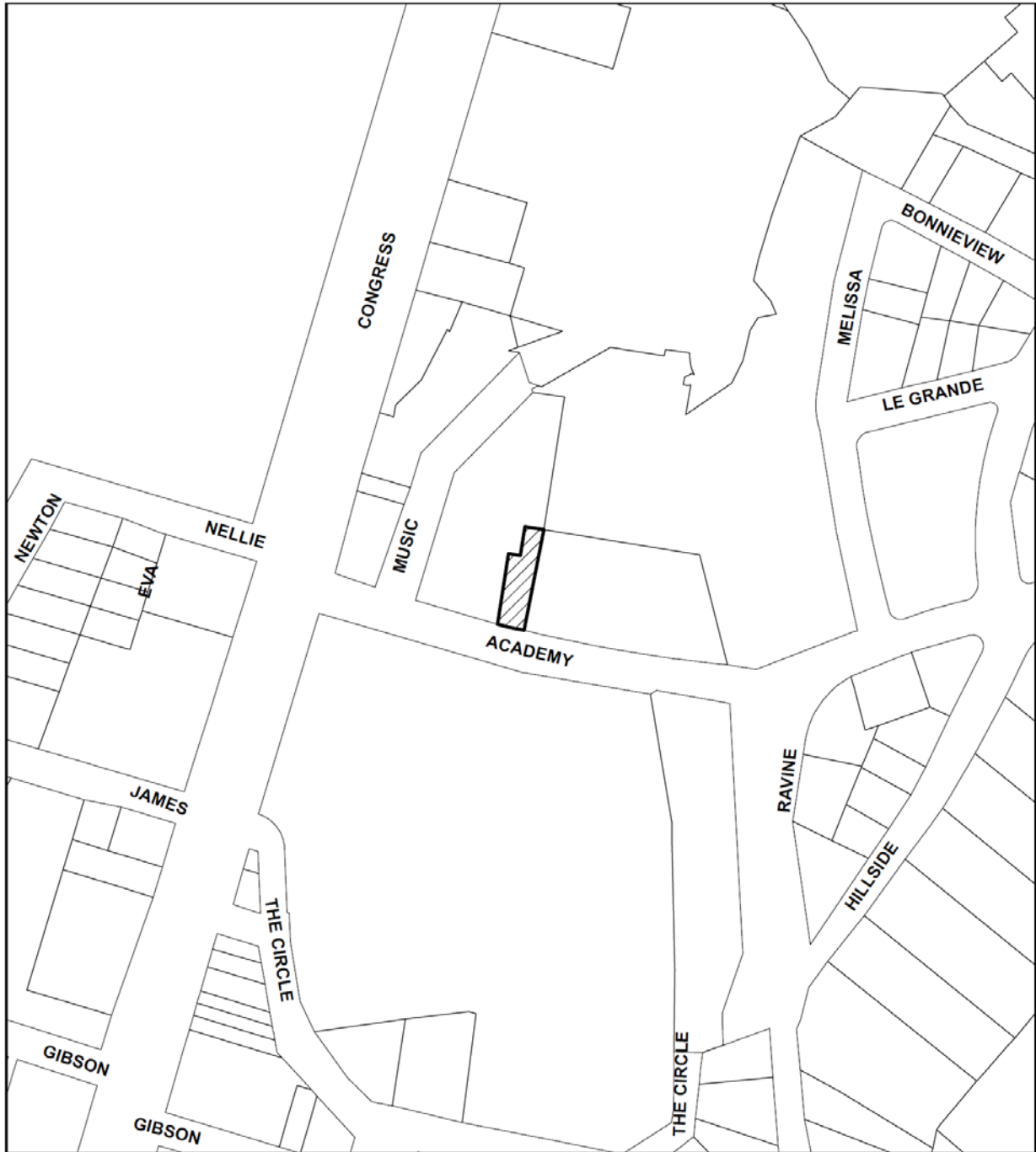
STAFF COMMENTS

The house is listed in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984) but without a priority for research.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Encourage the adaptive re-use of this house if feasible, but release the permit upon completion of a City of Austin Documentation Package. The house has neither the architectural nor the historical significance to warrant individual designation as a historic landmark.

LOCATION MAP



1" = 200'



SUBJECT TRACT



PENDING CASE



ZONING BOUNDARY

CASE#: HDP-2015-0780
Address: 110 ACADEMY DRIVE

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

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110 Academy Drive
ca. 1921



OCCUPANCY HISTORY
110 Academy Drive

City Directory Research, Austin History Center
By City Historic Preservation Office
September, 2015

1992	Carolyn J. Hanna, renter No occupation listed A: Fay Perry, owner Retired B: Vacant
1985-86	Faith Perry, renter Nurse
1981	Vernon and Faith Perry, renters Vernon: Carpenter Faith: Nurse
1977	Vernon Perry, renter No occupation listed NOTE: The directory indicates that Vernon Perry was a new resident at this address.
1973	Vacant

NOTE: Vernon and Faye Perry are listed at 1007 S. Congress Avenue. They were the managers of the Terrace Apartments at that address.

- 1968 A: Billy B. and Tommie Hill, renters
 Assistant manager, Terrace Motor Hotel, 1201 S. Congress Avenue.
 B: Harold Lundquist, renter
 Night auditor, Terrace Motor Hotel, 1201 S. Congress Avenue.
 NOTE: The Terrace Motor Hotel's listing in the directory states that it had 366 rooms and suites, 2 swimming pools, private club, famous Summer House restaurant, facilities for parties, banquets, weddings and receptions for up to 2,000. "Picturesque and unique."
- 1962 Peggy L. Hill, renter
 Office secretary Miller Blue Print, 108 E. 10th Street.
 B: H.P. and Laura M. Elam, renters
 Assistant manager, Driskill Hotel, 6th and Brazos Streets.
- 1959 Margaret Rooker, renter
 PBX operator, Sheraton Terrace Motor Hotel, 1201 S. Congress Avenue – "the largest motor hotel in Texas; Charcoal Chef restaurant – the finest charcoal-broiled steaks."
- 1955 C.D. and Oleta Griffin, renters
 Clerk Terrace Motor Hotel, 1201 S. Congress Avenue.
 A: Ira and Corinne Marine, renters
 Ira: Laundry manager, Terrace Motor Hotel, tourist court, 1201 S. Congress Avenue.
 Corinne: Assistant laundry manager, Terrace Motor Hotel, tourist court, 1201 S. Congress Avenue.
- 1952 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman, Austin Baking Company, wholesale, 300 Lamar Boulevard.
 B: Edgar and Audrey Marshall, renters
 U.S. Air Force
 NOTE: The Terrace Motor Hotel is listed at 1215 S. Congress Avenue; there was no description of the business.
- 1949 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman (no place of employment listed)
 Also listed is James E. Beck, a driver for Covert Auto Company, Buicks, 416-20 San Antonio Street.
 NOTE: The Terrace Motor Hotel is not listed in the directory.
- 1947 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman, Austin Baking Company, wholesale, 300 Lamar Boulevard.
- 1944-45 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman (no place of employment listed)
- 1941 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman, Austin Baking Company, wholesale, 300-06 Fannin Street.
- 1939 Paul J. and Mary Beck, owners
 Salesman, Austin Baking Company, wholesale, 300-06 Fannin Street.

- 1937 Roy T. and Mabel Smith, renters
Carpenter
NOTE: The address is listed as 202 Academy Drive.
NOTE: Paul and Mary Beck are listed at 96 Anthony Street; he was a salesman for the Austin Baking Company, 300-06 Fannin Street.
- 1935 William Y. and Callie D. Knight, owners
Salesman
Also listed is Sudie Knight, a stenographer for the State Board of Control.
NOTE: The address is listed as 202 Academy Drive.
- 1932-33 William Y. and Callie Knight, owners
Salesman
Also listed are Olga Knight, a teacher; and Sudie Knight, a student at the University of Texas.
NOTE: The address is listed as 202 Academy Drive.
- 1930-31 William Y. and Callie Knight, owners
Salesman
Also listed is Sudie Knight, a student at the University of Texas.
NOTE: The address is listed as 202 Academy Drive.
- 1929 William Y. and Callie Knight, owners
Salesman
Also listed are Gordon M. Knight and Olga D. Knight; neither had an occupation shown.
NOTE: The house is listed as 202 The Circle.
- 1927 William Y. and Kathleen Knight, owners
No occupation listed
NOTE: The house is listed as 202 The Circle.
NOTE: There is a listing for the Ku Klux Klan Hall at 201 The Circle.
- 1924 Vacant
NOTE: William Y. and Callie Knight are not listed in the directory.
NOTE: There is no listing for the Ku Klux Klan Hall across the street.
- 1922 Mattie Pleasant, renter
No occupation listed
Also listed is Emogene Pleasant, a student at the University of Texas.
NOTE: The house is listed as 202 The Circle.
- 1920 No houses are listed on The Circle.
NOTE: Mattie Pleasant is not listed in the directory.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Mattie Pleasant (ca. 1921 – ca. 1923)

The 1920 U.S. Census shows Mattie and Emogene Pleasant living in Mabank, Kaufman County, Texas. Mattie Pleasant was a 54-year old Alabama-born widow with no occupation listed. Emogene Pleasant was 16, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a boarder, Frank Faulk, 22, a Texas-born music teacher; and a servant, Tracy Williamson, 20, who had been born in Texas.

The 1930 U.S. Census shows Mattie Pleasant as a 62-year old Alabama-born widow who was the proprietor of a rooming house at 1914 Nueces Street. With her lived her brother, Talmer Collins, Jr., a 60-year old widower who had been born in Mississippi, and was a watchman at a state institution.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Mattie Pleasant as the owner of the house at 1913 Rio Grande Street in Austin, which was worth \$6,000. She was a 73-year old widow with no occupation listed.

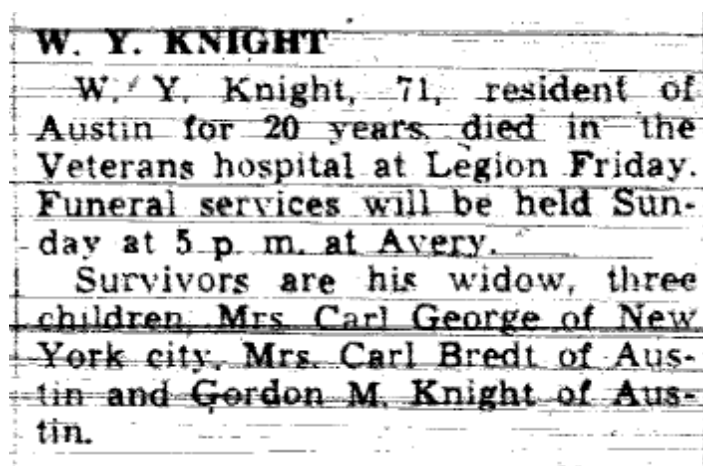
Mattie Pleasant died February 28, 1944 in Austin at the age of 78. Her death certificate shows that she was living at 1913 Rio Grande Street, had been born in Mississippi, and was retired.

William Y. and Kathleen Knight (ca. 1925 – ca. 1936)

The 1930 U.S. Census shows William Y. and Callie D. Knight as the owners of this house, which was worth \$6,000. William Y. Knight was 57, had been born in Mississippi, and was a sewing machine salesman. Callie D. Knight was 43, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had 3 children: Gordon M. Knight, 21, a news dealer; Olga D. Knight, 19, a public school teacher; and Sudie O. Knight, 16. All three children had been born in Texas. The Knights had 3 families of lodgers listed with them: Leona C. Duncan and her children, Ruby and Frances; Harvey D. and Lenora Oliver; and Ella and Minnie Brinkley. Leona C. Duncan was 45, listed as married, had been born in Mississippi, and had no occupation listed. Her daughters, aged 87 and 6, had been born in Mississippi. Their father had been born in Texas. Harvey D. Oliver was 45, had been born in Texas, and was a clerk in a meat market. His wife, Lenora, was 39, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. Ella and Minnie Brinkley, aged 21 and 19, respectively, had both been born in Texas, and both worked as operators in a laundry.

The 1940 U.S. Census shows William and Callie Dale Knight renting the house at 207 E. Milton Street in Austin. William Knight was a sewing machine salesman. With them lived their son, Gordon, 31, a newspaper salesman.

The 1920 U.S. Census shows William and Callie Knight living in Medina, Texas, where William Knight was a merchant with a general store.



Obituary of William Y. Knight
 Austin American, Septembger 16, 1944

Paul and Mary Beck (ca. 1938 – ca. 1954)

The 1940 U.S. Census shows Paul and Mary Beck as the owners of this house, which was worth \$5,000. Paul Beck was 40, had been born in Texas, and was a salesman for a wholesale

baking company. Mary Beck was 36, had been born in Texas, and had no occupation listed. They had a son, James Edward Beck, 9.

His 1971 death certificate shows that Paul John Beck was living on a rural route in Travis County at the time of his death. He was born in Bastrop County, and was a salesman for a baking company.

PAUL J. BECK
Paul J. Beck, 71, of Sunset Valley West, died Saturday at his residence. Formerly of Rockne, Texas, he had been a resident of Austin-Travis County for 41 years.
He was a retired salesman of Austin Baking Co. with 35 years of service. He was a member of St. Ignatius Catholic Church and of Knights of Columbus Council No. 1017.
Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Mary Belto Beck; one son, Sgt. James E. Beck of the Austin Police Department, one sister, Mrs. Clara Gibbons of Alameda, Calif., two brothers, Alfred M. Beck of Austin and Willie Beck of Manor, and six grandchildren.
Rosary will be recited Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Wilke-Clay Funeral Home.
Funeral Mass will be said Monday at 2 p.m. at Ignatius Catholic Church.
Burial will be in Assumption Cemetery.

Obituary of Paul Beck
Austin American-Statesman, May 16, 1971